

Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office



Courageous Citizen Awards Ceremony

Wednesday, August 6, 2014
Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Long Beach

Award Recipients

Jessica Sanchez

Presented by Deputy District Attorney Amy Wilton

Ms. Sanchez put her friend's well-being before her own during a vicious attack. On April 20, 2013, Ms. Sanchez and a friend were lured to a home by the friend's ex-boyfriend for a child custody visit. Once at the home, the two women realized the child was not there. The ex-boyfriend then tried to seduce the friend, but his advances were rebuffed. Enraged, he began to beat her. Ms. Sanchez immediately went to her friend's aid. The two women broke free and escaped to a park. The suspect followed and continued the violent assault. Ms. Sanchez intervened and was punched by the attacker. Finally, the two women retreated to a safe location and called 911.

Jeffrey Wood, Raúl Real, Erick Aquino

Presented by Deputy District Attorney Julian Recana

Three good Samaritans chased and subdued a drunken driver responsible for a fatal car crash on the 710 Freeway. In the late evening of Nov. 2, 2012, the suspect was driving drunk and ended up traveling northbound on the southbound lanes of the 710 Freeway. At a high rate of speed, the drunken driver caused a head-on collision with another car that had two occupants. One victim died while the other suffered major injuries. After the collision, the suspect got out of his car and tried to flee. Mr. Wood, Mr. Real and Mr. Aquino were bystanders who got out of their respective vehicles, tried to render assistance to the victims and chased after the suspect. They caught up to the drunken driver and detained him until police arrived.

Carrie Beltran

Presented by Deputy District Attorney Tony Cho

Ms. Beltran bravely foiled a robbery at her uncle's jewelry store. On July 16, 2012, Ms. Beltran dropped off her baby with her aunt at her uncle's shop. After she left the store, a robber entered, jumped over the counter and beat Ms. Beltran's uncle with a gun. During the assault, a shot was discharged from the gun. Ms. Beltran's aunt, who was holding her baby, hit the suspect and was pushed to the ground. From outside, Ms. Beltran could see the commotion occurring inside the store. She re-entered the shop and mercilessly attacked the suspect until he was subdued by her uncle, an employee and a passerby. The suspect was restrained until law enforcement arrived.